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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: WIMMROITHER, W. ET AL-1

PCT NO.: PCT/AT2003/000318

FILED: OCTOBER 22, 2003

TITLE: PROTECTIVE CAP FOR A CONTACT PIPE IN A WELDING TORCH IN ADDITION TO A WELDING TORCH EQUIPPED WITH SAID CAP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.